
RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Contact Information

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Domestic Violence
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Coalition Type

Domestic violence

Year Formed

1979

Year Incorporated

1979

Staff

4 full-time-equivalent staff members

Fiscal Year

July 1994 - June 1995

The Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center

Contact Information

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Coalition Type

Sexual assault

Year Formed

1973

Year Incorporated

1979

Staff

20 full-time-equivalent staff members

Fiscal Year

January 1995 - December 1995

Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Member Programs and Services

All six of the domestic violence programs operating in Rhode Island are members of the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence. None of the six is a dual domestic violence/sexual assault program, and none responded that they offer any of the services classified as sexual assault services in this report. Almost all prevention and service activities listed for this inventory are offered by several or all of the programs (exhibit 1). In addition, special program components have been developed for Asian and Latina women as well as those in lesbian relationships and those who are incarcerated.

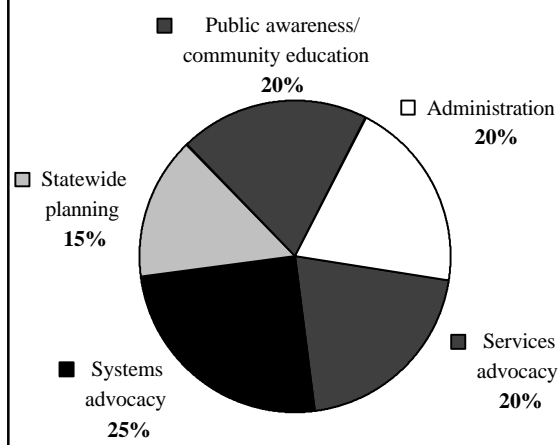
Exhibit 1. Number of coalition member programs (N=6) offering various domestic violence services

<u>Number of programs</u>	<u>Service</u>
6	Independently run domestic violence hotline
6	On-site shelter for abused women and their children
6	Support group for women
6	Legal advocacy program
1	Medical advocacy program
4	Specific support program for sheltered children
4	Services for non-sheltered children
5	Education programs in elementary or high schools
6	Education programs in colleges or universities
6	Community education/speakers bureau
6	Training for professionals (e.g., police, court personnel, social workers)
2	Transitional/second-stage housing
0	Treatment/rehabilitation program for batterers
0	Other services

Domestic Violence Coalition Operations

This Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence divides its labors nearly equally among four types of operations: services advocacy, systems advocacy, public awareness/community education, and coalition administration. Just slightly less work is devoted to statewide planning. The coalition itself does not provide services directly to victims of domestic violence, though its member programs do. See figure 1 for the coalition's estimates of how it dedicates its efforts.

Figure 1. Percentage of effort allocated at the domestic violence coalition level among various operations



Special Projects of the Domestic Violence Coalition

This coalition identified four special projects it undertook during fiscal 1994-95. Three of the four focused on increasing public awareness of domestic violence and its related issues. The fourth was a survey of Rhode Island's major hospitals designed to investigate the prevalence of sexual and domestic violence. This fourth project was conducted in collaboration with Rhode Island's Rape Crisis Center, the only statewide rape crisis program in Rhode Island. This center functions as Rhode Island's sexual assault coalition and is also discussed in this chapter.

Statewide Conference

Description: A multidisciplinary conference on domestic violence issues was held for 250 participants.

Purpose: Public awareness/community education

Funding source: Federal funding

Public Awareness Project

Description: Billboards designed to promote public awareness were posted in six areas in the state.

Purpose: Public awareness/community education

Funding source: Federal funding

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Activities

Description: The coalition created banners and educational displays for all six local shelters and conducted a ribbon campaign.

Purpose: Public awareness/community education

Funding Source: Nongovernmental funding

Hospital Prevalence Study

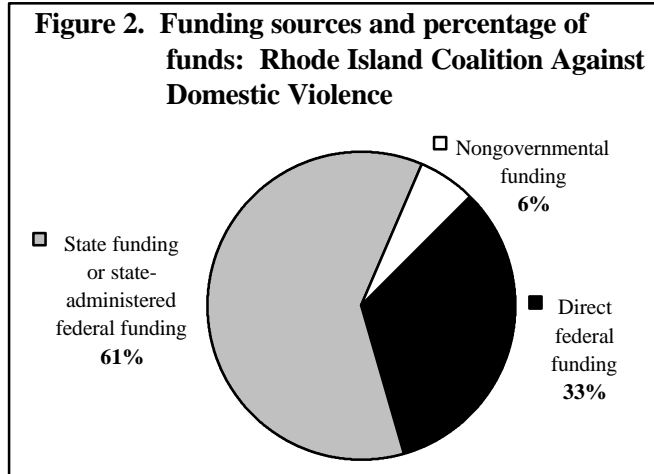
Description: A survey was conducted in Rhode Island's major hospitals to collect data regarding the prevalence of sexual and domestic violence. The project was undertaken in collaboration with the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center.

Purpose: Not specified

Funding Source: Not specified

Domestic Violence Coalition Funding

This coalition's total budget for fiscal 1994-95 places it in the uppermost quartile (\$425,001 or more) of the range of incomes across all domestic violence coalitions. One-third of the coalition's funding came directly from the federal government. The bulk of what the coalition received came through the state of Rhode Island (see figure 2). These state-administered funds were drawn from sources within Rhode Island such as general state funds and from Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds contributed by the federal government. A smaller portion of the coalition funding was acquired through such sources as foundation/corporate grants, private donations, local program dues, fundraising, and interest on bank balances. Of the total purse for fiscal 1994-95, about two percent was retained for future expenditures.



Federal and State Funding

Grants received from the federal government included the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) state coalition grant as well as other types of discretionary grants won by the Rhode Island coalition. State-administered funding came from three sources. The largest amount was apportioned for the coalition from the state's court budget. In addition, funds designated by Title XX and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds supplemented the coalition's budget. See exhibit 2 for a list of governmental funding received by the coalition.

Exhibit 2. Sources of government funding reported by the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence	
<u>Direct federal funding</u>	<u>State funding or state-administered federal funding</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Violence Prevention and Services state coalition grant - • Other discretionary grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds • Appropriated or general state funds • Court budget

Nongovernmental Funding Sources

Five nongovernmental resources contributed money toward the Rhode Island coalition's efforts. The bulk of funds in this category were given by resources common to many coalitions: foundation or corporate grants, private donations, and local program dues. In addition, the coalition conducted some fundraising activities and earned interest on a bank account (exhibit 3). The latter two resources are categorized as "other" sources in the exhibit.

Exhibit 3. Sources of nongovernmental funding* reported by the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence	
<u>Source</u>	<u>Percentage of nongovernmental funding</u>
Foundation or corporate grants	69%
Private donations	15%
Local program dues	8%
Other nongovernmental sources	8%

*Nongovernmental funding was 6% of total funding.

Funds Passed to Local Programs

Seventy percent of the coalition's total income was passed to its member programs. In general, the coalition tended to be more likely to pass on large portions of its governmental funding such as its federal grants, VOCA funds, and appropriated state funds. Only its state coalition grant was kept completely in-house. Smaller portions of funds received from private sources were distributed to local programs.

The Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center

The Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center is the only sexual assault program operating in the state and functions as the state's sexual assault coalition. The program reports making tremendous progress under the goals of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) toward more formal collaboration with domestic violence agencies.

Member Programs and Services

Except for treatment for sexual offenders, all of the sexual assault services that were queried for this inventory are offered by the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center. The services are listed in exhibit 4. The center also notes that it will soon be offering support for the family members of homicide victims. No services specifically oriented to domestic violence are offered by this program.

Exhibit 4. Number of coalition member programs (N=1) offering various sexual assault services

<u>Number of programs</u>	<u>Service</u>
1	Independently run sexual assault hotline
1	One-on-one counseling
1	Support group for adult women
1	Support group for teenage girls
1	Support group for male victims
1	Support group for adult survivors of child sexual abuse
1	Secondary support groups for spouses/partners of victims
1	Secondary support groups for parents of victims
1	Adult accompaniment and advocacy services
1	Child accompaniment and advocacy services
1	Legal advocacy program
1	Medical advocacy program
1	Prevention/risk reduction programs in preschool, elementary, middle, or high school
1	Education programs in colleges or universities
1	Community education/speakers bureau
1	Training for professionals (e.g., police, court personnel, social workers)
1	Technical assistance
0	Treatment/rehabilitation for sexual offenders
0	Other services

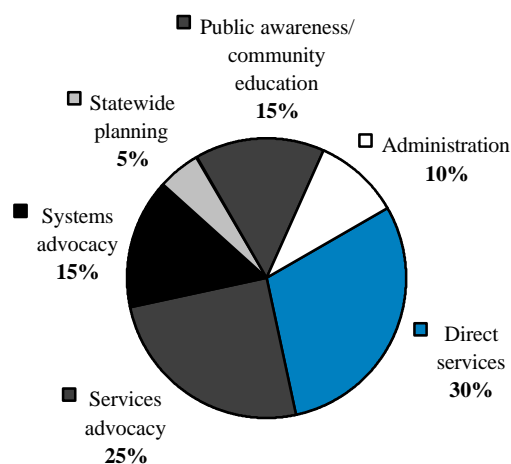
Sexual Assault Coalition Operations

As a rape crisis center, this program dedicates almost one-third of its efforts toward direct services and another quarter toward services advocacy. Equal portions of labor are given over to systems advocacy and to public awareness and community education. Smaller portions of work are spent on the center's administrative tasks and statewide planning. Figure 3 depicts how the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center's labors are apportioned.

Special Projects of the Sexual Assault Coalition

Three special projects were named by the single-member sexual assault coalition in Rhode Island. In addition to a statewide needs assessment, training for both law enforcement and medical personnel were offered. The three projects are detailed below.

Figure 3. Percentage of effort allocated at the sexual assault coalition level among various operations



Law Enforcement Training

Description: In a statewide “train the trainers” effort, police officers were trained using domestic violence and sexual assault curricula and were prepared to offer training to other law enforcement personnel.

Purpose: Systems advocacy

Funding source: Federal funding

Statewide Needs Assessment

Description: The numbers and types of programs designed to address violence against women in the state of Rhode Island were assessed.

Purpose: Statewide planning

Funding source: Federal funding

Medical Advocacy

Description: This project was undertaken by the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center in partnership with the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence and three major hospitals. Training for hospital personnel will be offered. Long-term goals, ongoing evaluation, and a case management program were a part of this project.

Purpose: Direct services

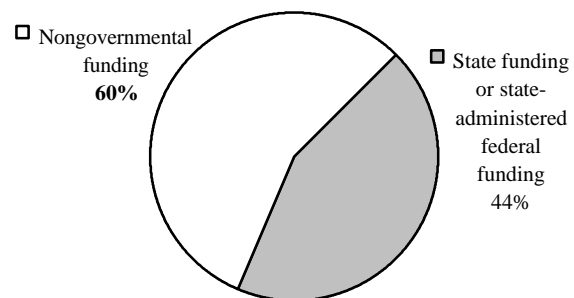
Funding source: Federal funding

Sexual Assault Coalition Funding

As compared to sexual assault coalitions in other states, the funding received by the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center places it in the uppermost funding quartile (\$200,001 or more). Virtually all of the funds acquired for fiscal 1995 were spent for direct services. About 1.5 percent was retained for the next fiscal year or was spent to support the work of the coalition such as office administration, operating expenses, or special projects.

As shown in figure 4, the center received over half of its funding from nongovernmental sources, with the remaining portion having come from the state government. Funds overseen by the state included money generated within the state and funds passed from the federal government. No funds were given directly to the coalition by the federal government.

Figure 4 . Funding sources and percentage of funds: Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center



Federal and State Funding

This rape crisis center received all of its governmental funding through the state of Rhode Island. No funds were garnered directly from the federal government. As exhibit 5 depicts, the state draws on numerous resources to supply this funding including VOCA, VAWA, Preventive Health Block Grant, Social Services Block Grant, and other funds raised in-state.

Exhibit 5. Sources of government funding reported by the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center	
<u>Direct federal funding</u>	<u>State funding or state-administered federal funding</u>
None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds • Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funds • Preventive Health Block Grant • Social Services Block Grant • Appropriated funds or general state funds • Corrections • Training grants and Medicaid (counseling) • Children's Justice Act

Nongovernmental Funding Sources

Three types of nongovernmental benefactors offered monetary support for the work of the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center (exhibit 6) during fiscal year 1995. These were foundations and corporations that delivered grants, private donations from individuals, and a donation from the United Way. The center also collected some funds through fees. As the only member program of the Rhode Island sexual assault coalition, the rape crisis center does not collect local program dues or general membership dues.

Exhibit 6. Sources of nongovernmental funding* reported by the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center*	
Foundation or corporate grants	44%
Private donations	9%
Other nongovernmental sources	7%

*Nongovernmental funding was 60% of total funding.

Rhode Island State Government Agencies

Two state agencies supplied funds to eradicate violence against women. One agency, the Governor's Justice Commission, supplied funds solely to the state coalitions. The other, the Rhode Island Department of Health, administered funds given to the domestic violence coalition as well as other local nonprofit programs and other government agencies. Both agencies noted only federal funds, rather than state-generate funds, that they oversee. When considering the funding in Rhode Island presented in this report, note that the domestic violence coalition, the sexual assault coalition, and the two government agencies are not reporting for the same fiscal years.

Governor's Justice Commission

Fiscal year: October 1994 - September 1995

This agency oversaw funds received by Rhode Island under the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) totaling \$176,000 in fiscal 1994-95. The amount received that was designated for domestic violence services and prevention (\$96,000) was passed directly to the state's domestic violence coalition. Likewise, the funds received that were designated for sexual assault services and prevention (\$80,000) were passed directly to the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center.

In addition to distributing funds received through VOCA, the Governor's Justice Commission will oversee funds received through VAWA. Because these funds are earmarked for fiscal 1995-96 rather than 1994-95, they are not detailed in this inventory. The commission plans to distribute VAWA funds to the domestic violence coalition, the sexual assault coalition, and the Rhode Island Department of the Attorney General to fund prosecution. VAWA funds will also be designated for training law enforcement personnel, data collection and analysis, and administrative tasks at the Governor's Justice Commission itself.

Rhode Island Department of Health, Preventive Health Services, Violence Against Women Branch

Fiscal year: October 1994 - September 1995

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention supplied a \$120,000 grant to this state agency that was then divided among other state government agencies (\$50,000), local nonprofit agencies (\$30,000), and Rhode Island's domestic violence coalition (\$40,000).

Federal and State Funding Reported by Rhode Island State Government Agencies

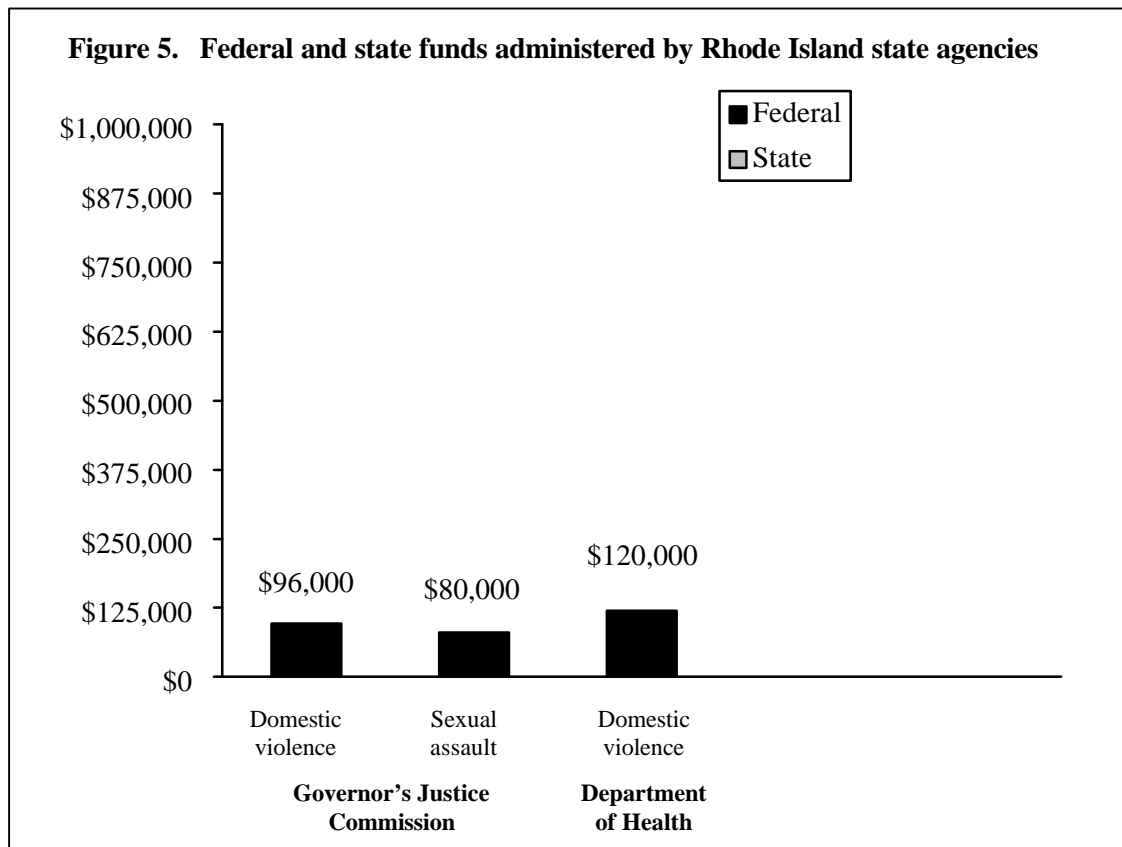
Only federal funds designated for domestic violence or sexual assault passed through the Governor's Commission on Justice and the Rhode Island Department of Health (exhibit 7). Exhibit 8 details the sources and amounts of the federal funds received by Rhode Island.

Exhibit 7. Federal and state funding totals reported by Rhode Island state agencies	
Federal	\$296,000
State	\$0
Total	\$296,000

**Exhibit 8. Sources of government funding reported
by Rhode Island state agencies**

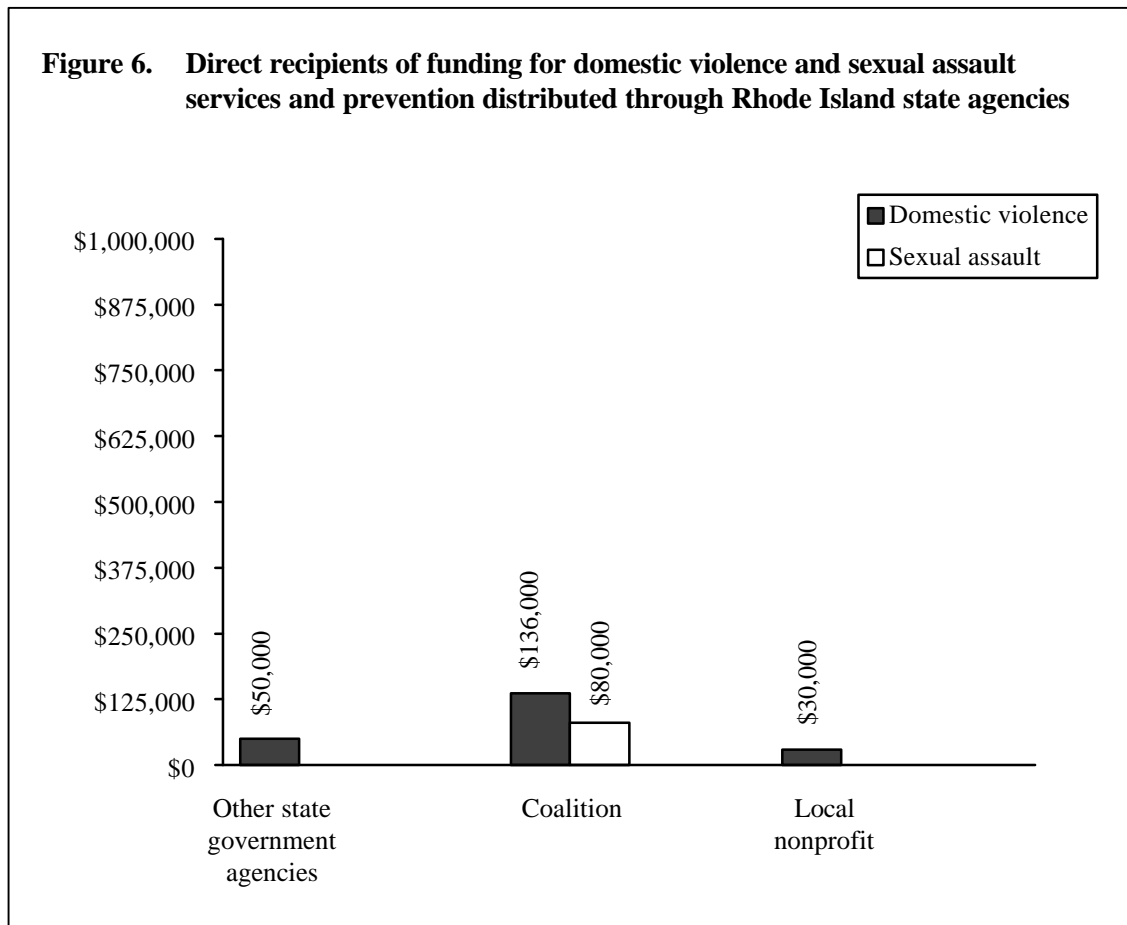
<u>Federal funds</u>	<u>State funds</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds - \$176,000 • Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant - \$120,000 	None

As shown in figure 5, over 70 percent of the funds distributed by these two agencies were given to the cause of domestic violence, with the remainder dedicated to sexual assault services and prevention. All were federal funds.



Distribution of State-Administered Funds

Rhode Island's coalitions on domestic violence and sexual assault were the primary beneficiaries of funds that flowed through the Governor's Justice Commission and the state's Department of Health (see figure 6). Though they did not receive as much funding as did the coalitions, local nonprofit organizations and other state government agencies also received portions of the funds distributed for domestic violence efforts.



Local Programs and Services Funded through State Agencies

All of the local programs that received funds from the Governor's Justice Commission and Department of Health are members of one of the state's coalitions. Therefore, details about the services those programs offer were shown in exhibits 1 and 4.

